

H. LESCHKE, H. M. POLLARD, L. S. ROSE, AND
E. C. TWISSELMANN: OBITUARIES

ELIZABETH McCLINTOCK

Department of Botany

Californina Academy of Sciences, San Francisco 94118

During the past two years the Department of Botany of the California Academy of Sciences lost four Research Associates. The following accounts briefly characterize their backgrounds and contributions to botany.

Hans Leschke (1883–1973), a native of Germany, came to San Francisco in 1924 as director of the newly created Municipal Chorus. Alfred Hertz, conductor of the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra, invited Dr. Leschke to direct the chorus for a spring festival in San Francisco. The festival was so great a success that it was decided to establish for San Francisco a permanent municipal chorus with Dr. Leschke as director. At his retirement from that directorship in 1964, he received several awards and citations for his successful achievements in music.

In addition to his life-long interest in music Dr. Leschke had another interest, which was in natural history and botany. From the University of Berlin he received a doctorate in paleontology. But apparently he had a greater interest in plants than fossil animals for during all of his years in San Francisco his spare time away from music was devoted to hiking and studying plants along the way. In the late 1930's he met John Thomas Howell through Sierra Club activities and this led to his association with the Academy.

During a number of summers Dr. Leschke and his wife spent vacations and camping trips in Lassen Volcanic National Park. Intensive field work during these summers resulted in his later collaboration with George W. Gillett and John Thomas Howell in *A Flora of Lassen Volcanic National Park, California* published in 1961.

In addition to his field studies in Lassen Park, Dr. Leschke also collected extensively in Olympic and Mt. Rainier national parks in Washington. His local interest centered in Marin County and Mt. Tamalpais in particular, where his field work was of great help to Mr. Howell when he was preparing his *Marin Flora*.

Dr. Leschke had a broad knowledge of western plants but he developed a particular and critical interest in the large difficult genus *Carex*. The Academy Herbarium has an exceptionally fine collection of this genus and Dr. Leschke spent much time during his later years critically working on this material.

On his field trips Dr. Leschke always collected specimens, which he brought to the Academy Herbarium for identification. He deposited a

set of his collections there but in addition he kept a small personal herbarium, which on his death was presented to San Francisco State University.

A rare Indian paint-brush known only from Point Reyes Peninsula in Marin County, *Castilleja Leschkeana*, was named by Mr. Howell in honor of Hans Leschke.

Henry Minter Pollard (1886–1973), born in Mendota, Illinois, and a graduate of Mendota (now Aurora) College, had a long career as a teacher of Latin and Greek. He came to California in the early 1900's and taught classical languages in Marin County, Catalina Island, the Ojai Valley in Ventura County, and the Santa Barbara area, always in private schools.

During summer vacations Mr. Pollard enjoyed such out-of-door activities as hunting and fishing and he always observed the natural features, geology, plants, birds and mammals, of the areas he visited. Orleans in Humboldt County was one of his favorite fishing places during his years of teaching in Marin County. It was while teaching in Marin County that he became acquainted with John Thomas Howell and the Academy. He occasionally brought plant specimens to the Academy Herbarium for identification. He had no formal training in botany but his interest in plants led him to study their intricacies by himself and Mr. Howell pointed out to him the value of making collections.

While teaching in the Ojai Valley in the 1940's, Mr. Pollard began extensive collecting of the Ventura River drainage basin. It was in this area during the 1950's and 1960's that he saw the many changes brought by industry and development. These changes destroyed much of the native flora and allowed many non-native introduced weeds to become established. Later, in Santa Barbara, he saw the city grow as small, undeveloped areas within the city limits were converted to residences and shopping centers. His only published paper was a list of native plants collected in such a small area in Santa Barbara before the plants disappeared in the path of urbanization (Wasmann J. Biol. 17:153–156).

As these developments took place he noted that the native plants were replaced by agricultural and urban weeds. His approach to these replacement plants was not to ignore their presence but to collect them. This resulted in many first, or at least early, records of the appearance of new weeds for Ventura and Santa Barbara counties. Such information has been valuable and useful to the California Department of Food and Agriculture in its survey of the weeds of the State.

Mr. Pollard made his collections by walking. Although in his early years he drove a Model T Ford, during his collecting years he did not own an automobile and he often referred to automobiles as necessary evils of modern times. Since he liked both walking and collecting, he recollected many of the same plants in the same areas. His early col-

lections came to the Academy Herbarium. The specimens, usually in duplicate sets, were used not only for deposit there but also provided much useful material for exchange with other herbaria. In addition to the Academy Herbarium, his major collections are at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden (especially collections of the 1960's and early 1970's), Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, and Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden.

Lewis Samuel Rose (1893-1973), a native San Franciscan, was associated with the Academy for more than forty years. As a student at the University of California, Berkeley, he was interested both in botany and entomology but he finally chose botany. At that time he considered specializing in algae through encouragement from William A. Setchell. After graduation in 1917, he spent a year in Japan making collections that he later presented to the University. The algae and his other early collections were made under the name L. S. Rosenbaum, his original family name. Following a short army career during World War I and several years as an account executive, he became a volunteer worker in the Academy's Department of Botany in 1930.

During subsequent years he spent much of his time and effort collecting plants in large sets. These he used in an exchange program. During the 1930's he sought and built up a number of exchanges with various individuals and institutions in different parts of the world, including Europe, eastern Asia, South Africa, Australia, and Argentina. Mr. Rose carried on this kind of collecting and exchanging throughout the remainder of his life. Not only did he send thousands of specimens of California plants to herbaria around the world, but in return he received a commensurate amount of material, which he donated to the Academy. It has been estimated that through his collection and exchange activities this herbarium received about 100,000 specimens.

For many years Mr. Rose maintained in the Academy Herbarium an index file for all of those plants having their type localities in California and other western states. He kept the file up to date by searching through current literature, particularly monographs and revisions, where new species were described.

Through the years Lewis Rose's many collections turned up interesting material including a number of new species, ten of which were named for him. These include *Castilleja Roseana* Eastwood, *Arctostaphylos Rosei* Eastwood, *Arenaria Rosei* Maguire & Barneby, and *Senecio Lewisisei* J. T. Howell.

Ernest Christian Twisselmann (1917-1972) lived nearly all of his life near Cholame (San Luis Obispo County) where his family has extensive land holdings in the Temblor Range. Shortly after his graduation from the University of California, Berkeley, he began cattle ranching activities, which he continued until his death.

In 1952 an outbreak of nitrate poisoning caused serious cattle losses in the Temblor Range, as well as other areas in California. Mr. Twisselmann wished to learn the identity of the plants causing the disease and this led to his serious interest in botany. He sought the help of John Thomas Howell and from Mr. Howell he learned the mechanics of collecting plants and the problems of identifying them. He first studied the plants of the Temblor Range and in 1956 published a flora of the area. His botanical horizon soon expanded to Kern County and in 1968 his flora of the county was published. Both of his floras list the plants, their local distributions, and their habitats but, because he had lived all of his life in the area of his floras and understood its ecology, he added from his observations the kind of information that could only come from personal experience and local sources. (For a bibliography of his writings see E. McClintock, *Fremontia* 1:3-4. 1973)

About 1965, with the cooperation of the United States Forest Service, Mr. Twisselmann began field work on the Kern Plateau in the southern Sierra Nevada of Tulare and Kern counties. He made a preliminary check-list, based on his collections together with those of J. T. Howell and Gordon True, which he planned to expand into a flora of the area.

During the years of his botanical activity Mr. Twisselmann built up a personal herbarium of about 20,000 specimens. In addition to his own collections others were acquired from local correspondents, mostly neighboring ranchers, who supplied him with material from their areas. Specimens in his herbarium were mounted in a professional fashion and he prepared for them specially designed and neatly printed labels. His herbarium was deposited in the Academy Herbarium.

Through his intensive collecting Ernest Twisselmann turned up several new species. Two named in his honor are *Nemacladus Twisselmannii* J. T. Howell and *Eriogonum Twisselmannii* (J. T. Howell) Reveal.

PLANTAGO CORONOPUS IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST.—*Plantago coronopus* L., a European species with distinctive pinnatifid leaves, has been established in California and at Port Orford, Oregon for many years (Munz, *A California flora*, 1959; Peck, *Manual of the higher plants of Oregon*, 1941). It was not included in recent floras of the Pacific Northwest (Hitchcock et al., *Vascular plants of the Pacific Northwest*, 1959; Hitchcock and Cronquist, *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*, 1973), although Abrams and Ferris (*Illustrated flora of the Pacific States*, 1960) reported it from Whidbey Island, Washington, and Linnton (Portland), Oregon. The presence of this species in Washington has been confirmed by a collection from Willapa Bay, 1 mi S Bay Center, Pacific County, Washington (*Ganders* 742, 18 Aug 1974, WTU and UBC). It was growing with a mixture of introduced weeds and typical maritime taxa such as *Convolvulus soldanella* L., *Grindelia integrifolia* DC. var. *macrophylla* (Greene) Cronq., *Lathyrus japonicus* Willd., and *Tanacetum douglasii* DC. *Plantago coronopus* is also known from a salt marsh at Ladysmith, Vancouver Island, British Columbia (*T. M. C. Taylor* s. n., 13 Jul 1954, UBC).—FRED R. GANDERS, Department of Botany, University of British Columbia, Vancouver V6T, 1W5, Canada.